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Harvard and will prove valuable to all who are interested in debating. The introductory suggestions by Professor Hart are clear and to the point. They will prove helpful to those conducting as well as to those preparing debates.

The body of the work consists of seventy-five briefs on political, economic, educational, social, and miscellaneous subjects. This list includes almost every topic which has been up for discussion in recent years. For each topic the best general references are given as well as the special references for each point treated. The amount of labor thus saved to future debaters is very great. If the time saved in gathering material is spent in putting the arguments in the most effective manner we ought to see a great improvement in the art of debating and public speaking.

W. HILL.

Family Budgets: Being the Income and Expenses of Twenty-eight British Households. 1891-1894. Compiled for the Economic Club, with an Introduction. London: P. S. King & Son, 1896. 8vo. pp. 76.

THIS little book may be briefly described as a series of snap shots at English family life. The records it contains, covering only brief periods of time, give us little more, as its compilers admit, than instantaneous photographs of a small number of families. The book, however, represents a commendable effort to apply the methods of observation to the study of the social molecule. It is a result, as we are told, "of an effort to study family life in Great Britain through details of family expenditure." Besides the statistical tables setting forth this expenditure, there is in connection with each study a short story written by the observer, or by the head of the family himself, of the life and history of the family represented. These stories containing, as the most extended of them do, the history of the family, its moral circumstances, its hygiene, its means and mode of existence, lend a strong human interest to the book. A bare table of income and expenditure may awaken an economic interest, but it does not produce the same feeling that is called forth when we are told that the head of the family "has never been in a museum, although born in London. He is sensitive to the feeling that in any public building he or his children might be looked down upon as having 'no right to be there' because they are not smartly dressed" (p. 22). The book

affords many such glimpses of the inner life of the families described.

Following Le Play the compilers have described typical families and have selected them from different social strata. Of the twenty-eight budgets, eight are from London, nine from provincial towns, and eleven from the rural districts. The occupations, incomes and expenditures are widely different. All the accounts, however, are of respectable people, the compilers wisely recognizing the unreliability of the budgets of the opposite class as well as the difficulty of securing them.

Perhaps the attempt to follow the method of Le Play in these studies has led to the acceptance of a too narrow basis of observation. The budget of a family is indeed a key to many questions concerning its social conditions and relations, but the budget itself needs the explanation which only wider observations can furnish. In several cases the description of the family life indicates little scientific observation. In no case have we a complete budget. There are suspicious absences of items of expenditure which one would naturally expect to find, thus leading us to doubt the accuracy of the accounts. This criticism, however, as well as the obvious criticisms of the smallness of the number of the budgets and the absence of families representing many important classes of society, has been forestalled in the admirable introduction to the book.

In the introduction just mentioned our attention is called to some of the points upon which the budgets throw some light. Among these are the following: (1) The extent to which the small general shop is in process of elimination, and the method of distribution taking its place; (2) the extent of loss to the small consumer caused by the necessity of purchasing in small quantities; (3) the relation of uncomfortable lodgings to early and hasty marriages; (4) the difference in the item of supplementary earnings between English and continental family budgets; (5) the influence of the Friendly Society system and the attitude of humble families toward the Poor Law.

On the whole the book, although only a sample and a suggestion of the sort of work which in the interest of social science should be carried much farther, is of distinct scientific value. It represents an attempt to know what *is* in society, and observation is centered upon a most fruitful object of study. Around the family hearthstone center all the exterior phenomena of society. In placing oneself there for

observation, as M. Cheysson has remarked, one is sure to seize upon all the symptoms of misfortune or of happiness, of antagonism or of peace, which should serve as criteria for further researches.

I. W. HOWERTH.

Misère de la Philosophie. Par KARL MARX. Avec une préface de FRIEDRICH ENGELS. Paris: V. Giard et E. Brière, 1896. 18mo. pp. 291.

Socialisme et Science Positive. Par ENRICO FERRI. Paris: V. Giard et E. Brière, 1897. 8vo. pp. 220.

THIS reprint of Marx's earliest exposition of his peculiar economic views is notable, not in point of novelty, nor because it adds to what is already currently known by students of Marx with regard to his early position, but because it is evidence of the unabated authority with which the writings of the master still appeal to the thoughtful and studious adherents of the school. It may be noted in this connection that a German translation of the book (by men as eminent in the socialist world as Bernstein and Kautsky) has also recently (1892) appeared. The present reprint is an unaltered reproduction of the book as it originally appeared in 1847, in Marx's polemical onslaught on Proudhon, except for the incorporation of certain minor corrections made by the author in the margins of his private copy of the volume. There are also added, by way of appendices, three briefer papers by Marx,—a condemnatory letter on Proudhon, reprinted from the *Socialdemokrat* (Berlin) of 1865; an extract from *Zur Kritik der politischen Oekonomie*, going to disprove Proudhon's claim to originality in his proposed *banque du peuple*; and the address on free trade before the Democratic Association of Brussels. These supplementary documents go to enforce the impression made by Engels's preface, that the purpose of the reprint is in some measure a polemical one. The preface is directed to the disproof of any possible indebtedness of Marx to Rodbertus, as well as to the definitive confutation of all who may claim any originality or other merit for Rodbertus, whether as against Marx or otherwise in connection with economic discussion. Although Engels's preface dates from 1884, it may not be out of place to repeat, for the good of Rodbertus's admirers and champions at this day, certain characteristic claims and assertions here made by Marx's lifelong intimate friend, "the most